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DATE: March 16, 2007

TO: EXAMINER TON 571-272-2303
(ADDRESSEE'S NAME) (EXTENSION)
ART UNIT 2871 571-273-8300
(LOCATION) (FAX NUMBER)

FROM: MATTHEW C. LOPPNOW (847) 523-2585
(SENDER'S NAME) (EXTENSION)

RE: APPLICATION NO. 09/667,641

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGE(S) 7 (INCLUDING THIS PAGE)

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Signature

Matthew L. Loppnow

Date March 16, 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) Zili Li

GROUP ART UNIT: 2871

APPLN. NO.: 09/667,641

EXAMINER: TON, MINH TOAN T

FILED: 09/23/2000

TITLE: LIQUID CRYSTAL DEVICE HAVING VARIABLE REFLECTED
WAVELENGTH

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Motorola, Inc.
Intellectual Property Department
600 North U.S. Highway 45
Libertyville, IL 60048

REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

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MS Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

20

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Answer dated January 16, 2007, Applicants submit the
present Reply Brief.

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I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The Examiner's Answer correctly acknowledges the real party in interest.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

The Examiner's Answer correctly acknowledges the related appeals or interferences.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

The Examiner's Answer correctly acknowledges the status of the claims.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

The Examiner's Answer correctly acknowledges the status of amendments.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's Answer correctly acknowledges the summary of the claimed subject matter.

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The Examiner's Answer correctly acknowledges the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal.

VII. ARGUMENT

Claim Limitations At Issue

In Claim 1, the limitations at issue are italicized below:

1. A liquid crystal device comprising

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5 a transparent front plate;
a back plate spaced apart from the transparent front plate;
a *cholesteric liquid crystal material* between said transparent front plate and
said back plate, said *cholesteric liquid crystal material* having a reflective state wherein said
cholesteric liquid crystal material reflects light through said front plate, said light
characterized by a first wavelength in the absence of an applied electric field; and
means for applying an electric field, parallel to the back plate, to said
cholesteric liquid crystal material in the reflective state to cause said cholesteric liquid
crystal material to reflect light characterized by a second wavelength different than said first
10 *wavelength.*

Applicants' Argument

15 Applicants maintain the teachings of Kondo cannot be combined with the teachings of
Buzak to teach the claimed invention because Kondo deals with a different liquid crystal from
the claimed *cholesteric liquid crystal*, which is only mentioned briefly in Buzak.

As asserted in the original Appeal Brief, Kondo has nothing to do with *cholesteric*
liquid crystal. While the teachings of Kondo do allow for the range of material selection to be
increased, the teachings never mention the claimed *cholesteric liquid crystal*.

20 The Examiner's Answer alleges the teachings of Kondo provide an advantage such as a
wide viewing angle. However, Kondo does not teach the advantage is applicable to the
claimed cholesteric liquid crystal. Buzak does teach "Chiral liquid crystal cells are known in
the art and function in a manner similar to that described for a *cholesteric layer*" (col. 3, lines
30-32). However, this only discloses chiral liquid crystal cells function in a manner "similar"
25 to that described for a *cholesteric layer*. Such does not disclose chiral liquid crystal cells are
applicable to all uses of *cholesteric liquid crystal*. In fact, such does not even disclose that all
of the teachings of Buzak are applicable to *cholesteric liquid crystal*. In particular, the cited
section only discloses how chiral liquid crystal is similar to *cholesteric liquid crystal*. The
section does not even teach that all of the teachings of Buzak are applicable to *cholesteric*
30 *liquid crystal*.

The teachings of Kondo fail to make up for the deficiencies of Buzak because Kondo
has absolutely no disclosure of *cholesteric liquid crystal*. In fact, the Examiner's Answer does

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not even attempt to address Applicants' arguments with respect to cholesteric liquid crystal. For example, see page 6 of the Examiners Answer, which labels Applicants' assertions with respect to cholesteric liquid crystal with "(e)." However, on page 7, when the Examiner's Answer attempts to respond to Applicant's assertions in corresponding paragraph (e), the Examiner's Answer only discusses twisted nematic type liquid crystal and does not even mention cholesteric liquid crystal.

Furthermore, as asserted in the Appeal Brief, the type of switching used in Kondo cannot provide the claimed feature of causing a cholesteric liquid crystal material to reflect light characterized by a second wavelength different from a first wavelength. In response, on page 7, paragraph (e), the Examiner's Answer again does not even address the claimed feature. The Examiner's Answer only alleges the combination achieves advantages "such as a wide viewing angle" (page 8). However, such is not the claimed causing a cholesteric liquid crystal material to reflect light characterized by a second wavelength different from a first wavelength.

Thus, the Office Action has not provided a prima facie case of obviousness because Kondo does not teach any of its teachings are applicable to the cholesteric liquid crystal.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. The remaining claims depend from the independent claims and therefore also define patentable subject matter.

Accordingly, kindly reverse and vacate the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, with instructions for the Examiner to allow claims 1-3.

CONCLUSION

In view of the discussion above, the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Kindly withdraw any rejections and objections and allow this application to issue as a United States Patent without further delay.

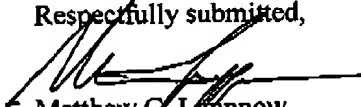
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any fees arising as a result of this
Reply Brief or any other communication from or to credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 50-2117.

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Respectfully submitted,

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